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Nixon Works On Speech At David

CAMP DAVID, Md. (AP) — President Nixon worked with his chief speechwriter and Watergate lawyer Friday as the White House announced he would make his promised response to revelations of the Senate Watergate committee next week.

The White House said the response would come in a speech in Washington sometime in mid-week.

Deputy Press Secretary Gerald L. Warren said there was still no decision on the exact time or format of the speech. There has been speculation Nixon would choose a nationally televised address or an appearance before a bipartisan gathering in the White House with TV coverage for his statement.

The President, at Camp David since Wednesday, was expected to remain there through the weekend, Warren said. Nixon says he does his best thinking at the mountaintop retreat.

He was joined Friday by his long-time chief speechwriter, Patrick Buchanan, and his special Watergate counsel, J. Fred Buzhardt.

Warren said the President has not ruled out the possibility of a Watergate press conference before he departs for a scheduled California visit.

The complicated charges, testimony and ramifications of the Watergate affair make it likely that Nixon may choose to make his public stand in several forms.

Nixon has not had a question-and-answer session with reporters since March 15, before many of the Watergate revelations were made public and before the 37 days of Senate Watergate committee hearings.

Nixon has scheduled a long vacation visit to San Clemente, Calif., expected to last through Labor Day.